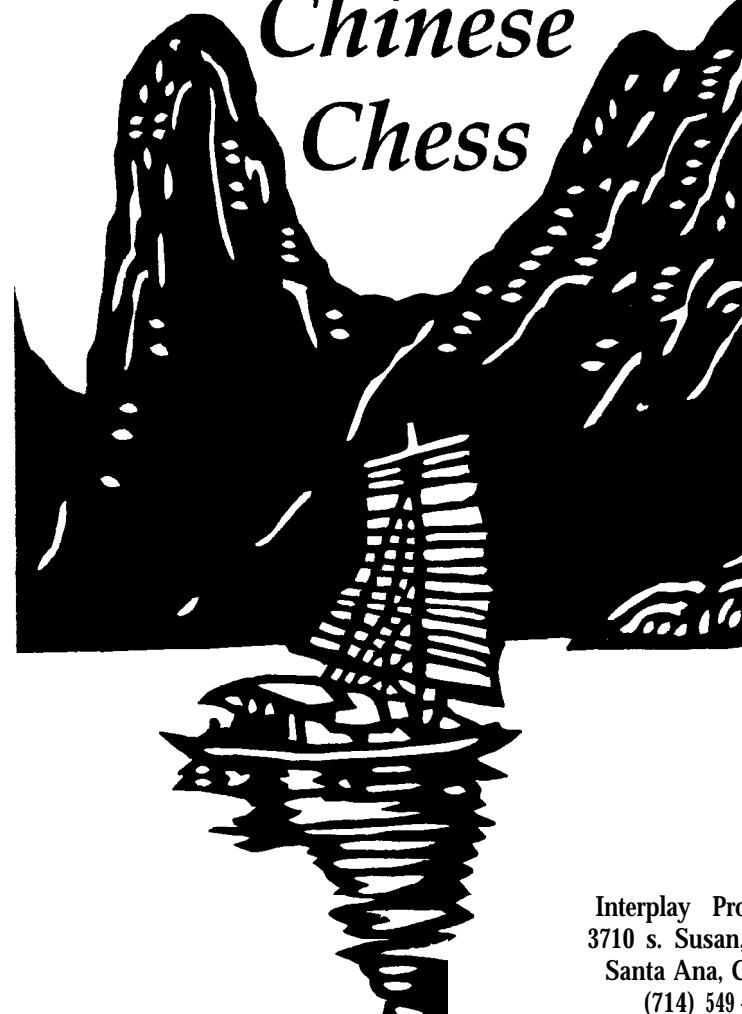


# *Battle Chess II:*

## *Chinese Chess*



Interplay Productions  
3710 s. Susan, Suite 100  
Santa Ana, C:A 92704  
(714) 549-2411

## Loading Instructions

### Loading Instructions

For IBM/Tandy  
and 100% Compatibles

Battle Chess II requires at least 640K to play. Before you begin, make a backup



of your Battle Chess II disks. (Refer to your DOS User's Manual for instructions on how to make backups.)

MAKE SURE  
YOU PLAY WITH YOUR  
BACKUP DISKS ONLY

1. Boot your computer with DOS. If you have a mouse, make sure it is connected and the driver installed.

2. Insert your backup of the BCII Startup disk. The first time you play CHINESE CHESS you must run the setup program. Type a:setup center >.

Follow the instructions on screen. The setup program will configure BCII to your system (graphics, sound boards, input device). If you are not sure what you have or are having problems, configure your system to:

Graphics - CGA, Sound Board - Internal Speaker, Input device - Keyboard.

When you are finished with configurations make sure you save them to disk

3. If you **want** to play BCII from your hard disk, create a subdirectory (we suggest creating one called CHESS2) and copy all files from all disks into it. (Refer to your DOS user's manual for instructions on how to create directories and how to copy files.)

4. To load BCII from here, make sure you are in the proper directory or at the proper drive prompt, and type CHESS2<enter>

### Copy Protection

During the setup program, you will be asked to type in a move from one of the fictional games in Appendix A of this manual. Type in the move it requests and type <enter>. For example, if asked for Blue's third **move** in game #5, Morphy vs. Ching Ti, you would type K5F1 center>. BCII will then be configured specifically for your system. If you change system configurations, you will need to run the setup program again.

## Movement

### Movement

NOTE: Mouse and joystick operations are the same.

Using Keyboard - To move your chess pieces, use the arrows to position the flashing square under the piece you want to move, then press <enter> to select it. Select the desired destination point by using the arrows and press <enter>. (You will notice that legal moves are solid green squares and illegal ones are solid red.) You can also move the flashing square by using algebraic notation. For example, to move the Knight you would type

B1 <enter>

C3 <enter>.

Using Mouse - To move your chess pieces, use the mouse to position the flashing square under the piece you want to move, then press the left button to select it. Select the desired destination point by using the mouse, then press the left button. (You will notice that legal moves are solid green squares and illegal ones are solid red.)



## Battle Chess II Menus

### **Battle Chess II Menus**

**Using Keyboard** - Press the <F1> key to bring up the menus. Use the arrows to switch between the menus and highlight an option. Press the <enter> key to select it. Press the <ESC> key to exit without selecting any option.

**Using Mouse** - Press the right mouse button to bring up the menus. Keep holding the right mouse button down as you move the pointer over menu titles and the appropriate options will appear. Move the pointer down to the option you desire and when the option highlights, release your hold on the right mouse button. The four menus contain the following options:

#### **DISK**

Load Game, Save Game, New Game, Set Up Board, Quit

#### **MOVE**

Force Move, Take Back, Replay, Suggest Move, Show Layout, Help Move

### **SETTINGS**

Sound On/Off, Music On/Off, 3-D Board, 2-D Board Roman, 2-D Board Chinese, Human Plays Blue, IBM Plays Blue, Modem Plays Blue, Human Plays Red, IBM Plays Red, Modem Plays Red

### **LEVEL**

Novice, Level 1-8, Set Time

Menu options that have a "+" beside them are currently selected. Note that the Boards you can change to will show up in the **Settings** menu, while the one you are on does not.

### **Menu Options Explained**

#### **Load Game**

If you've saved a game before, this option recalls the game and picks up where you left off. After selecting Load Game, the Load window will then appear displaying a list of your saved games. Select the game you wish to load by double-clicking with the mouse or using the arrow keys and pressing the center > key if you

don't have a mouse. The game will be loaded with its saved settings.

#### **Save Game**

Pick this option if you want to save a game to disk while the game is in progress. After Battle Chess II asks you to insert your save disk, the Save window will appear. Choose a slot with the mouse or arrow keys, type a name for the game you wish to save, and then press the <enter> key.

#### **New Game**

This option lets you start a new game at any time.

#### **Set Up Board**

This option lets you set up games for testing strategies. Set Up is performed on a 2-dimensional chess board with the additional chess pieces arranged vertically on each side of the board. Any of the pieces can be selected and moved into any position by clicking on them with the mouse.

**Keyboard users:** To select a piece on the side of the chess board, press the < F3 > key, then using the arrows choose a specific

## Battle Chess II Menus

piece, and press the <enter> key. This will return your chosen piece to the chess board.

From Set Up, you have four additional menu options:

**Clear Board:** Removes all pieces from the board.

**Restore Board:** While remaining in Set Up, this aborts any changes you've made.

**Next Move Blue, Next Move Red:** This determines who moves next.

**Done:** Returns you to normal playing mode so you can play the game you've set up.

Note that once you've entered Set Up Board, all moves stored from your current game are lost.

#### **Quit**

You've had enough. Exit to the operating system.

#### **Force Move**

If you get impatient while waiting for Battle Chess II to make its move, you can force it to move with this option. This interrupts the computer's thinking process and makes it take the best move that it has thought of so far (this command is not instantaneous).

## Battle Chess II Menus

### Take Back

This option will take back the last move made by either side. You can take back as many moves as you want, back to the first move you made.

### Replay

Let's say you've just taken back a move, then decided it wasn't such a bad move after all. Just select Replay to put the piece back where it was.

### Suggest Move

Want a hint for your next possible move? The Suggest Move option will give you that hint. Flashing highlights will appear on a point occupied by one of your pieces and the suggested destination point (this command is not instantaneous).

### Show Layout

If this is selected, a window will appear showing the 2D board and pieces. This is advantageous when you want to see the board layout without pieces in the way.

### Help Move

If selected, legal moves will be solid green squares

while illegal ones are solid red. This defaults to on.

### Sound On/Off

Toggles the combat and animation sounds on and off.

### Music On/Off

Toggles the individual music scores for each piece on and off.

### 3D Board

Shows the board in its splendid three-dimensional view with all pieces animating.

### 2D Roman

Shows the Two-dimensional board with Roman lettering carved into the pieces.

### 2D Chinese

Shows the two-dimensional board with Chinese lettering beautifully engraved into each piece.

### Human/IBM/ Modem Plays Red/Blue

Use these six settings to determine who plays which side. For example, if you wanted to play against another person, set Human

Plays Blue and Human Plays Red. If you wanted the computer to play against itself, set IBM Plays Blue, IBM Plays Red. Any combination of these is allowed (Exception: Modem Plays Red, Modem Plays Blue) as long as one side plays Red and the other plays Blue.

### Levels

Levels Novice through 8 are available. Novice is the easiest, and 8 is the hardest.

The longer Battle Chess II thinks, the more carefully planned its moves will be, and the better game it will play. Under the Novice level, Battle Chess II only does one simplistic board evaluation. Remember, if it's taking too long, you can always override the thinking time by using the Force Move option.

### Set Time

This lets you change Battle Chess II's average thinking time to any amount you want, from 1 minute to 10,000 minutes. A window will appear after you pick this option. Type a number measured in minutes and press the <enter> key, and Battle Chess II will take ap-

proximately that long to think per move.

### Shortcut Keys

If you don't want to use the mouse to select the menus, certain shortcut keys are available in combination with the ALT key. See the box below for the keys.

### Check

When your King is in check, the mouse pointer will change to a "check" icon. It will change back to the normal pointer when the King escapes check.

### THINKING TIME PER LEVEL

Level	Time
Nov.	Special
1	5 seconds
2	10 seconds
3	30 seconds
4	1 minute
5	2 minutes
6	5 minutes
7	10 minutes
8	15 minutes

### Shortcut Keys

ALT F	Force Move
ALT M	Suggest Move
ALT T	Take Back
ALT S	Toggle Sound on/off
ALT R	Replay
ALT L	Show Layout
ALT H	Help Move
ALT U	Toggle Music On/Off

## Playing Battle Chess II by Modem

You can play Battle Chess II against a distant opponent if each of you has a Hayes-compatible modem hooked up to your IBM. If you have only one com port, you cannot have a mouse driver installed. If your modem is properly connected, as shown in your modem manual, there are 3 steps to start playing over the modem with Battle Chess II.

1. Arrange with your opponent who will play Red and who will play Blue. After you've agreed, both of you should load Battle Chess II and set your opponent's color with the "Modem Plays Blue" or "Modem Plays Red" menu option. Hang up the phone on both ends before continuing.

2. One player must set his modem to auto-answer mode. You can do this by pressing the <F2> key then typing AT&T0=1 and pressing the <enter> key. (That's a zero, not the letter "O".)

3. The other player must call the player whose modem is set to auto-

answer. To dial a number, press the <F2> key then type AT&T 555-1212, substituting the correct phone number, and press the center > key. You can use any phone number with the AT&T command, including area codes.

Your modem will pick up the phone and dial the number, and if all goes well, it'll then connect with the modem on the receiving end. If you get this far, you're set; you can start your chess game. When you move a piece, that move will happen on your opponent's end as well as yours. Note that after the two players are connected, the menu options New Game, Set Up Game, and Load Game will send an entire new chess board to both sides, discarding the current game.

When you set one player to Modem you can send text to your modem or opponent by pressing the <F2> key. This will bring up a dialogue box in which you can enter a line of text. The window will disappear when you press center> and the line of text will be sent. This is the way you control your modem in Battle Chess II,

using the modem's AT commands, and it is also the way you send messages to your opponent once you are connected. Press the <F2> key then type one line and press the <enter> key. A window will pop up on your opponent's screen with your message. After he or she dismisses the window, the game can continue. You can receive these messages at any time except when a window is open on your screen. If you type modem commands in this way, the modems will act on them. See your modem manual for details on AT commands.

There are two steps to break the connection and hang up the phone. First, press the <F2> key, then type + + + (three plus signs), press center>, and wait a moment. This will get your modem's attention. Then press the <F2> key and type ATH to tell your modem to hang up. This will close the connection between the two players.

Battle Chess II communicates at 300 baud with 8 bits and no parity.

## Playing Battle Chess II With Serial Cables

If you and an opponent have two IBM computers, you may play with one person at each IBM. Hook up a null modem cable between the IBMs' serial ports. Then one person should pick Modem Plays Red and the other, Modem Plays Blue. You can proceed to play as if you were connected by modem. The only difference is that you never need to type any dialing commands.

## A Brief History of Chinese Chess

The central theme in all forms of chess is that chess is a representation of war without the randomness or inequalities of real war. Both sides begin the battle with the same number of pieces, and except for the privilege of first move, the sides are completely even.

*"Understand the Principles and the Enemy Will Be Vanquished."*

*-Ping Fa*

The beginnings of chess can be traced back to seventh century India, where the game was called 'Chaturanga'. Soon, it spread to the nearby regions of Persia and China. By the eleventh century, the game had migrated throughout Europe by way of Spanish and Italian traders. During this time, it underwent many modifications until it became the international version of chess that is seen today.

While all this was happening in Europe, chess was undergoing different changes in China. The Chinese version of chess differs from its western counterpart in that it more so

reflects the Chinese culture and philosophy. For instance, since the Chinese were the early developers of gunpowder, a piece representing a cannon was added to the set. Each piece has a unique history associated with it which reveals something of Chinese culture. The river in the middle of the board represents the 'Celestial River' or the 'Yellow River' dividing the "Northern Territory" from the "Southern Territory".

All in all, Chinese Chess is perhaps a more colorful representation of war. It combines a richer historical feeling characterized by the symbolic presence of each piece with a greater scope of movement allowed by the larger and more open board.

## Basics of Chinese Chess

The goal of playing a game of Chinese Chess is identical to that of many other games - specifically, defeating your opponent. In Chinese Chess, this is done by placing your opponent's King in checkmate or stalemate.

Here are the rules of Chinese Chess in a nutshell:

- Two opponents play against each other. One player is usually red, and the other, blue.
- Each player has one Ring, two Rooks, two Cannons, two Knights, two Ministers (blue Ministers are sometimes replaced by Elephants), two Counsellors (or guards), and five Pawns.
- The object of the game is to put the opponent's Ring in "checkmate" or "stalemate".
- The red player moves first and then the two players alternate moves. You must move when it is your turn.
- You may only move one piece per turn. A move

is when a piece moves from one intersection to another intersection. Each kind of piece moves in its own individual way, described in the section of the manual titled, "The Individual Pieces."

- No piece (except the Cannon) may jump over or pass through any other piece on the board when it moves. Only one piece can be on an intersection at a time.

- Any piece may capture any of the opponent's pieces by landing on the same point with it. The captured piece is removed from the board and is out of the game. You may only capture one piece per turn.

- When an opponent's piece threatens the Ring and that piece could capture the King on the next move, the King is said to be in "check".

- If your Ring is in check, you must either move the King out of check, block the attack with another piece, or capture the piece putting your Ring in check. If you cannot escape check in one of these ways, the King is in "checkmate", you lose, and the game is over.

## Basics of Chinese Chess

- If your King cannot make a legal move and is not in check, your opponent has achieved a victory through stalemate. In Chinese Chess, a stalemate victory is just as desirable as one achieved through checkmate.

***"Nothing is more difficult than the art of maneuver. What is difficult about maneuver is to make the devious route the most direct and to turn misfortune to advantage.***

***- Sun Tzu***

victory in the ways described herein.

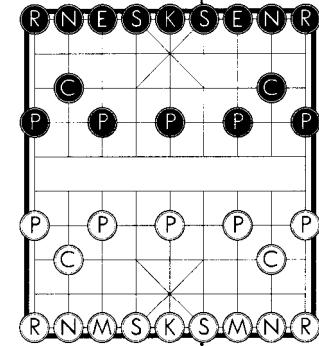
- A draw occurs when neither side is capable of achieving a victory in the ways described herein.

## The Board

### The Board

As you can see by looking at your screen, the chessboard consists of nine vertical and ten horizontal lines. When you boot Chinese Chess, all the pieces are in their starting positions. All Chinese Chess games start from this initial position.

Each side has an Imperial Palace made up of nine points in the 3 x 3 square marked by the diagonal lines. The open section, called the river, in the center of the board divides the northern territory from the southern. The markings at some of the intersections denote the starting positions of the pawns and the cannons.



# The Pieces

## The Pieces

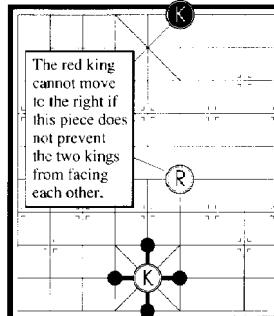
### Kings:

*"The short men carry lances and halberds, and the tall men bows and crossbows. The strong carry the banners and flags; the valiant the bells and drums; the weak are servants and prepare food. The wise lay plans."*

-Wu Ch'i

The King may move one point forward, backward, left, or right, but may never move diagonally. He is also restricted to movement within the Imperial Palace. The King may never move so that he is in check or directly across the board from the enemy King with no pieces in between. Also, another piece may not move in such a way that the King will be

in check or that he will be directly facing the enemy King.



Moves of the King

### Councillors:

Councillors may move one point in any diagonal

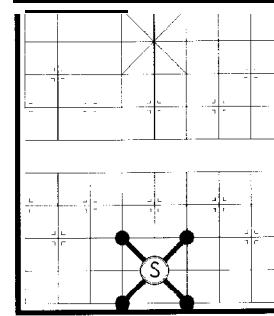
The King



The Counsellor



direction within the Imperial Palace.



Moves of the Counsellor

### Ministers:

Ministers may move exactly two points in a diagonal direction along the same line. They may never cross the river and they cannot jump over or through obstructing pieces.

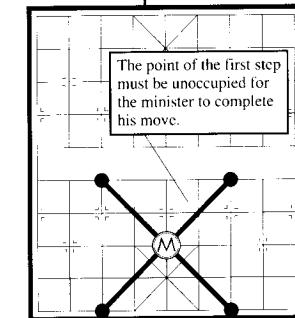
The Minister



# The Pieces

## Knights:

Knights may move one point forward, backward, left, or right, followed by one point diagonally left or right. Unlike conventional chess, the Knight may not leap over pieces to make its move. For example, if a point directly ahead of the Knight is occupied, the Knight cannot move forward in that direction.



Moves of the Minister

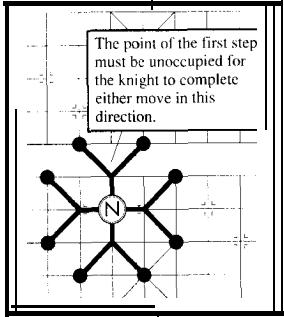
The Knight



# The Pieces

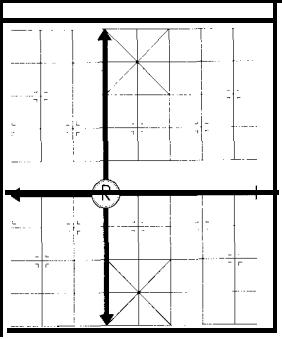
## Rooks:

Rooks may move any number of unobstructed points in a horizontal or vertical direction.

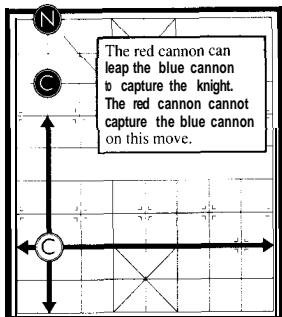


Moves Of the Knight

any number of points in a horizontal or vertical direction. However, in order to capture a piece, the Cannon must first jump over a single piece of either color. This piece is called a "bridge" or "screen". The Cannon then moves to the point occupied by the captured piece.



Moves of the Rook



Moves of the Cannon

## Pawns:

Pawns may move a single point forward, until they cross the river. After crossing, they may move left or right in addition to forward. Pawns may never move backwards and they never promote upon reaching the far end of the board. Unlike conventional chess, they capture by moving straight ahead.

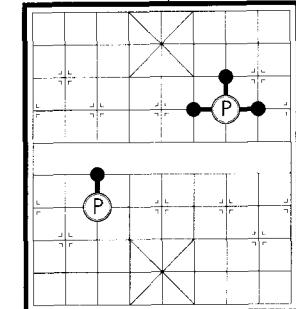
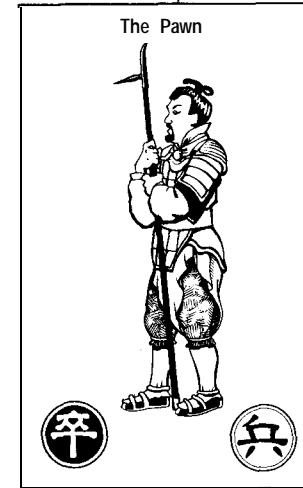
## Roman Lettering

Each piece is represented with the following letter on the 2D Roman board:

- K - Kings**
- G - Counsellors (Guards)**
- M - Ministers**
- N - Knights**
- R - Rooks**
- C - Cannons**
- P - Pawns**

# The Pieces

The Pawn



Moves of the Pawn

## The Importance of Each Piece

### The Individual Importance of Each Piece

By now, you should be getting a sense of the power of each piece.

The Rook is considered the most powerful piece because of its ability to move swiftly from one side of the board to the other. It is considered to have roughly the power of a Knight and Cannon combined. Its power diminishes slightly toward the end of the game as it requires the help of other pieces to penetrate a well-established enemy defense.

The Cannon is considered the second most powerful piece because of its ability to destroy from a distance and its swift movement. Like the Rook, its power diminishes toward the end of the game because its capturing power is reduced as more pieces are eliminated from play. However, it is perhaps the most important piece during the opening both offensively and defensively.

The Knight is considered only slightly less powerful

than the cannon because of its restricted movement early in the game. During that time, it is used primarily for defense. Its power greatly increases toward the mid-game as fewer pieces get in its way

Ministers and Counsellors are extremely limited because the former can never cross the river and the latter cannot leave the Imperial Palace. For this reason, both are used exclusively for defense. Ministers provide the outer defenses while Counsellors block attacks within the Imperial Palace.

Pawns are considered the least powerful pieces because of their limited movement. Once across the river, however, the Pawn's power increases as its movement abilities increase. Initially, a Pawn is used to block the enemy's attacks and provide bridges for the cannons. Unlike conventional chess, Pawns are not promoted when reaching the far horizontal line. Therefore, it is not always wise to advance your pawns too far across the board.

A way of remembering all of this is to think in terms

## The Importance of Each Piece

of points: a Rook is worth about 9 points; a Cannon about 4.5; a Knight about 4; a Minister or Counsellor about 2; and a Pawn about 1. If the Pawn has crossed the river, however, it should be considered about 2 points.

Because of the King's importance in winning the game, his value cannot be assigned a point value.

Keeping this in mind, you can see that you would come out well ahead in power if you were able to trade a Knight for a Rook. However, there will be times when you may want to sacrifice a high value piece for one of much lower value - if, for instance, by trading a Rook for a Counsellor you can set up for checkmate in the next move, then it doesn't really matter how many points you have lost. What ultimately matters in the game of Chinese Chess is whether or not you win the game. Everything else, including points, is second.

## Winning the Game

### Winning the Game

Because of the limitations on many of the pieces' movements, Chinese Chess games are generally shorter than conventional chess games. Basically, there are two ways to win:

1. Put your opponent in checkmate.
2. Stalemate your opponent.

A checkmate occurs when a King is in check and he has no way to escape the check. A stalemate occurs when a player has no legal moves to make. A player is considered to be in check when his Ring can be captured by an enemy piece on his opponent's next move. A player can escape check in one of three ways:

1. Move the Ring out of the way to a safe point.
2. Move another piece to block the path of the check
3. Capture the enemy piece putting the Ring in check

A player who cannot escape check in one of these three ways is said to be in checkmate and the game is over. If a player is not in

check, but any move the player makes will put him in check (which is illegal), the player has been stalemated and loses the game.

## Drawn Games

### Drawn Games

As in conventional chess, if neither side is able to capture the opposing Ring, the game ends in a draw. This often happens if neither side has any pieces remaining which can cross the river. There are two other rules, unique to Chinese Chess, which help prevent draws:

1. It is illegal for the same piece to put the opposing Ring in check three times in a row. "Draw By Perpetual Check", as it is called, is NOT allowed.
2. It is illegal for a piece to chase an opposing piece back and forth. If either piece moves to more than two squares while the "chase" occurs, then it is legal to continually threaten that piece.

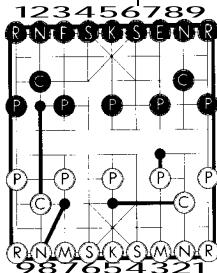
Also, if the threatened piece is protected at either point, the chase can continue.

For example, a Rook moves from point A to point B to avoid capture by an enemy Knight. The enemy Knight then moves from point Y to point Z. If the Rook moves back to point A, the Knight could

not move back to point Y unless the Rook is protected at either A or B.

Therefore, draws usually occur when both sides are reduced in power so that neither can penetrate the enemy's defenses.

# Chinese Chess Notation



Some Opening Moves

## Chinese Chess Notation

For the purposes of playing Chinese Chess by computer, algebraic notation is used to enter and note moves. The letters "a" through "i" run across the bottom of the board from left to right, while the numbers "1" through "10" (or "0" for our purposes) run from bottom to top. Therefore, to move the red Cannon on the left to capture the blue Knight on the first move, you type

B3<enter>  
B0<enter>

Descriptive Notation is more commonly used in texts containing games, although it is rather awkward. The vertical lines are numbered "1" through "9", left to right for blue pieces and right to left for red. Each move consists of a four letter code. The first letter is the piece's designation (eg. "C" for Cannon). the next place is the number of the file (line) that the piece is on. The third letter represents the type of movement ("F"

for forward, "B" for backward, and "H" for horizontal). The last digit represents one of two things: if the piece remains on the same vertical line, it is the number of steps taken forward or backward; if it changed lines, then it is the new line the piece is on.

The four opening moves in Fig. 1 can be represented as follows:

### Algebraic

H3-E3  
B1-C3  
G4-G5  
B3-B7

### Descriptive

C2H5  
N8F7  
P3F1  
C8F4

# Strategy

## Strategy

The objective in Chinese Chess is the same as in conventional chess, however, the strategies involved are much different. In Chinese Chess, a positional advantage is very important, since the Ring has such limited mobility. Often, a substantial material advantage can be offset by a single Rook deep in enemy territory. Remember that Chinese Chess is much quicker and deadlier than conventional chess. It's very common to win or lose in the first few moves of a game. Be aware of the many ways a Ring can be checkmated and watch for these positions developing.

### Openings:

There are many different openings in Chinese Chess. Whole volumes have been dedicated to this single facet of the game.

The most common opening is the "Central Cannon" opening. This consists of moving either Cannon directly behind the central Pawn. Subsequently, the Knights may be moved out to defend the central Pawn in case the opponent

decides to open similarly. Otherwise, the central Pawn can advance with little fear of being captured by the enemy Pawn because it would place the opposing King in check by the supporting Cannon.

Other variations on this opening consist of 'jamming' the enemy Cannon by advancing your other Cannon to the seventh rank or, using the Cannons to defend ranks adjacent to the river from attack

Other strategies involve moving pieces to free the most powerful piece, the Rook. Carefully watch which pieces are endangered and which ones you can capture.

It's important to establish yourself offensively and defensively from the start of the game. For example, you can capture an enemy Knight with your Cannon on the very first move. This is generally not considered a good move since the resulting loss of your Cannon is

*"Invincibility lies in the defense; the possibility of victory in the attack."*

-Sun Tzu

*"In planning, never a useless move; in strategy, no step taken in vain."*

- Chen Hao

# Strategy

usually devastating in the opening game. However, it is important to note that you can threaten many pieces within one or two moves.

***"Those skilled at making the enemy move do so by creating a situation to which he must conform; they entice him with something he is certain to take, and with lures of ostensible profit they await him in strength."***

- Sun Tzu

Imagination and innovation in the opening game very often results in a far superior position.

## Midgame:

Like conventional chess, there is no single "formula" for success in the mid-game. There are several guidelines that may be helpful in forming your own strategy:

- Do not attack without enough reinforcements.
- Try to shift your point of attack from one side of

Though the opening game is important, it is not absolutely necessary to consume a vast knowledge of opening moves since the Chinese Chess board is so much larger and more open than its western cousin. Im-

the board to the other in order to keep your opponent off balance.

- Capture at least one Minister and/or Guard to help you set up your final blow.

- Keep pressuring your opponent's weakly protected pieces, even if they are only Pawns.
- Move your Rooks out into an attacking position early, but not at the expense of your initiative.
- If a piece cannot be protected from an attack very easily, it is often better to use the 'extra' move to advance another piece to a much better position.

When deciding whether or not to sacrifice a piece, you must take into account how valuable that piece is at that point of the game. For instance, a Cannon is not worth as much later in the game simply because there aren't that many pieces to jump over. Knights generally tend to become stronger later in the game because they benefit from greater mobility. Also keep in mind that a Cannon is invaluable when attacking a

well defended King since it is the only piece in the game that can 'jump' over other pieces.

## Endgame:

The end-game in Chinese Chess is not quite as complicated as conventional chess because

- a) the King is very limited in its mobility, and
- b) a stalemate is considered a victory.

There are a few points to keep in mind when approaching the end-game:

- The King cannot move diagonally. Therefore, a Rook can effectively limit the King to only a few moves without the risk of being captured itself.

- The King cannot directly face the enemy King without another piece between them. This rule can effectively be used to contain the enemy King to a smaller area.

- Make sure you have enough pieces to overcome the defenses. Otherwise, you should try to force a draw by using your offensive pieces (ones that can cross the river) in defense.

# Strategy

The side with the most pieces or points does not necessarily have the advantage. Many strategies exist to win the game or at least force a draw when you are at the disadvantage.

Learning and practicing end game strategies by setting up boards with only a few pieces will greatly improve your Chinese Chess playing.

***"Use the most solid to attack the most empty."***

- Ts'ao Ts'ao

***"If you are able to hold critical points on his strategic roads the enemy cannot come. Therefore Master Wang said: When a cat is at the rat hole, ten thousand rats dare not come out; when a tiger guards the ford, ten thousand deer cannot cross."***

- Tu Yu

## Appendix A

### Fictional Games from History

1) Marco Polo (Red) vs. Kublai Khan (Blue), 1275 AD

It is rumored that on one of his visits to China, Marco Polo engaged the great Khan in a game of Chinese Chess. Although neither player was a master, Kublai was the more experienced of the two.

Marco Polo's fast and furious attack on the Khan's territory is at first successful, but he sacrifices too many pieces. The end result has Marco Polo with only one offensive piece remaining and a certain victory for the Khan.

Red                    Blue

1. C2H5            N2F3

2. N2F3            C8H6

3. RIH2            N8F7

4. C8F4            C6F4

5. P7F1            C2F7

6. R9H8            C6H1

7. C8F1            CIH7

8. C8H3            C7B4

9. N3F4            C7H5

10. R2F7	C5F4
11. C5F4	N3F5
12. R2H5	M3F5
13. N4F5	R9F1
14. R2F7	R9H4
15. N5F3	R4F4
16. RSB4	C5B2
17. RSH4	R4H5
18. G6F5	C5F4
19. G4F5	G6F5
20. R4F5	R5H3
21. K5H4	R3F4
22. K4F1	R3H7
23. N4F4	R7B1
24. K4B1	R7H5
25. R4B2	G5B6
26. R4F3	K5F1
27. R4B1	K5B1
28. R4F1	K5F1
29. R4B1	K5B1
30. resigns	

2) Xi Tsung (Red) vs. Emperor Chao (Blue), 975 AD

Tai Tsung is one of the early masters of the game of Chinese Chess. His strategy is unusual and worthy of observation. Un-

## Appendix A

like many players, Tai Tsung used his Pawns as offensive spearheads for his attacks. Here is one of his rumored games against the Emperor.

Notice Tai Tsung's early sacrifice of one of his Cannons for position. Then he slowly advances his Pawn along the seventh rank to secure his victory.

Red                    Blue

1. C8F4            C8H5

2. NSF7            N2F3

3. C2F5            NSF7

4. N2F3            C5H8

5. RIH2            C8H9

6. R2F6            P7F1

7. R2F1            R9H8

8. R2F2            N7B8

9. M3F5            C9H7

10. P7F1            c7F4

11. N7F6            M3F5

12. N6F7            K5F1

13. M7F9            C7H1

14. R9H7            R1F1

15. P7F1            N7F6

16. P1F1            RIH4

17. R7F3            CIH5

18. N3F5            R4F6

19. P7H6            R4H5

20. G6F5            R5H1

21. P6F1            RIH2

22. G5B6            RIH2

23. C7B3            C2F1

24. P6F1            N3B1

25. C8H9            R2H4

26. K5H4            C2F6

27. P6F1            K5B1

28. C9F5            C2H6

29. C9F1            G4F5

30. P6F1 mate

3) Su Hsun (Red) vs. Tai Sung (Blue), 989 AD

It is rumored that the aging master Tai Tsung put his undefeated record on the line against the poet Su Hsun.

Tai Tsung as usual moves his Pawns out early, but Su Hsun reacts well to this movement. It is Su Hsun's Rooks, however, that move in for the kill to give Tai Tsung his only recorded defeat.

Red                    Blue

1. C8H5            N8F7

2. C2F4            C2H5

3. N2F3            C5F4

4. N3F5            N2F3

## Appendix A

5. C5H3	M3F5	4) Dmurr (Red) vs. Yung Le Ti(Blue), 1395 AD
6. C3F4	P3Fl	
7. P3Fl	N3F2	The great general of Southeast Asia, Timur, is rumored to have avoided a conflict with the Ming
8. P7Fl	P5Fl	Dynasty in China by chal- lenging the best Chinese player at the time, Yung Le Ti, to a game of Chinese Chess. The winner would be allowed all of the ter- ritories in Indochina
9. P9Fl	P5Fl	without interference from the loser. One can only guess at how the history of that region might be dif- ferent if the outcome of this game had been dif- ferent.
10. P9Fl	P1Fl	
11. P3Fl	M5F3	
12. NSF7	P1Fl	
13. N7F5	M7F5	
14. NSF6	K5Fl	
15. C3H6	N7F6	
16. C6H5	K5H6	
17. C2H4	C8H4	
18. P3Fl	N6F4	
19. C5Bl	R1F3	
20. C5H4	K6H5	Timur moves into attack position early, while Yung Le Ti establishes his defen- ses. Through careful sacrifices, it is the great general and strategist,
21. RIH2	RIH6	Timur, who comes out with a victory. Note also Timur's use of both Rooks to achieve his checkmate.
22. R2F8	K5Bl	
23. C6H5	R6H5	
24. C5H8	N4B2	
25. R9F4	M5F7	
26. R2H6	C4H7	
27. R9F5	C7F7	Red                    Blue
28. K5Fl	P5H6	1. C2H3            C2H3
29. K5H6	C7H4	2. R1F2            CSHS
30. R9H6	mate	3. N8F7            C3F4
		4. C3F4            P3Fl
		5. P3Fl            P3Fl

## Appendix A

6. P1Fl	C3F3	Chinese Chess and one game of European Chess. After soundly defeating his opponent in the European game, Morphy was quite shocked to lose the Chinese game in only eleven moves.
7. R9H7	NSF9	
8. P3Fl	R8H8	
9. C8F5	R8F9	
10. C8H1	M7F9	
11. P3H4	R8H7	
12. P4Fl	R7H6	
13. K5H4	P5Fl	
14. P4Fl	C5H3	
15. C3H5	P3Fl	
16. P4H5	G4H5	
17. P5Fl	K5Fl	
18. RIH6	C3F5	
19. R4F6	K5Fl	Red                    Blue
20. R4Fl	N2F3	1. C8H5            N8F7
21. R4H5	K5H4	2. P5Fl            C2H5
22. C5H7	C3B4	3. C2F4            K5Fl
23. R7F3	C3Fl	4. N2F3            C5F3
24. R7F2	R1F2	5. C5F4            N7F5
25. R7Fl	M3F5	6. C2H5            C7H6
26. R7H6	mate	7. RIH2            C6F4
		8. K5Fl            C6H5
		9. K5H4            C5B3
		10. N3F4            C5H6
		11. N4F3            C5H6 mate
		5) Morphy (Red) vs. Ching Ti (Blue), 1860 AD
		The great American chessmaster, Palos Morphy, is rumored to have agreed to play the Chinese master, Ching Ti, one game of

# Index

*"It is sufficient to estimate the enemy situation correctly and to concentrate your strength to capture him. There is no more to it than this. He who lacks foresight and underestimates his enemy will surely be captured by him."*

*- Ts'ao Ts'ao*

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